

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 01669 211248Z

41

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 USIA-15 DODE-00 CCO-00

CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01

COME-00 OIC-04 DRC-01 /092 W  
----- 102244

R 211207Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4029

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1669

EO11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, ITU, WB, GW, US

SUBJECT: PREPARATION FOR 1974 LF/MF BROADCASTING CONFERENCE

REF: A) BONN 14702 B) BONN 14181 C) STATE 180498

D) BONN 10577 E) MONROE-NUFFCUTT LETTER, APRIL 4, 1974

1. IN OUR PREPARATIONS FOR ITU CONFERENCE ON MEDIUM AND LONG RANGE BROADCASTING WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT PRESENT BROADCASTING ARRANGEMENTS IN BERLIN ARE UNDER ALLIED KOMMANDATURA CONTROL AND SERVE OUR POLITICAL PURPOSES. BASIC ALLIED DOCUMENTS (BK/L(57)30 AND BK/L(68)12), WHICH PERMITTED APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENTS TO BERLIN, SPECIFICALLY RESERVED AUTHORITY TO ALLOCATE BROADCASTING FREQUENCIES TO KOMMANDATURA. THIS ARRANGEMENT IS CONVENIENT SINCE IT GIVES US RIGHT TO ALTER OUR BERLIN BROADCASTING ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH EVOLVING TOTAL POLITICAL/TECHNICAL ENVIRONMENT. IT IS DESIRABLE THAT THIS POWER OF DECISION AND FLEXIBILITY IT GIVES US REMAIN UNDILUTED.

2. WE ACCEPT POSSIBLE NEED FOR CONCESSIONS (SEE PARA 6 BELOW FOR SUGGESTION), BUT OUR EFFORTS AT CONFERENCE SHOULD SEEK TO AVOID POLITICAL DAMAGE TO ALLIED POSITION IN BERLIN. THIS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BERLIN 01669 211248Z

MEANS CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT RESULT IN REDUCTION IN NUMBER

OF STATIONS, AS OPPOSED TO CHANGES IN FREQUENCIES USED, AND SHOULD NOT AFFECT TRADITIONAL BROADCASTING PATTERN WHICH COVERS NOT ONLY WEST BERLIN BUT ALL OF BERLIN, AND ENVIRONS. WE WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT CLOSING DOWN OR SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN TRANSMITTING POWER OF ANY OF WEST BERLIN'S BROADCASTING STATIONS (SFB INCLUDING BBC SERVICE, AFN, RIAS) WOULD HAVE NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS ON MORALE AND COULD BE POLITICALLY MISINTERPRETED HERE.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT A NON-CONTROVERSIAL METHOD OF RETAINING NECESSARY ALLIED CONTROL COULD BE ACHIEVED BY WORKING OUT IN ADVANCE LIMITS OF FRG REPRESENTATION ON OUR BEHALF WITH RESPECT TO BERLIN. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT AT SOME APPROPRIATE POINT IN CONFERENCE FRG MAKE PROCEDURAL NOTE THAT BECAUSE OF RESERVED POWERS OF ALLIED KOMMANDATURA IN BERLIN FRG WOULD UNDERTAKE TO TRANSMIT CONFERENCE RESULTS TO THESE AUTHORITIES. FRG COULD ADD THAT IT UNDERSTOOD THAT KOMMANDATURA WOULD SEEK WITHIN LIMITATIONS OF PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO BERLIN TO ACT IN MANNER CONSISTENT WITH RESULTS OF CONFERENCE.

4. AS CONFERENCE WILL BE STEERED BY COMMUNICATIONS EXPERTS, IT MAY BE USEFUL AT SOME STAGE FOR DEPARTMENT TO COORDINATE WITH FRIENDLY FOREIGN OFFICES. THEY SHOULD BE APPRISED THAT THERE IS COMMON INTEREST IN HAVING THEIR TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVES AT THE CONFERENCE UNDERSTAND THAT ALLOCATION OF FREQUENCIES IN BERLIN CANNOT BE TREATED AS PURELY TECHNICAL MATTER.

5. SINCE PREPARATIONS FOR CONFERENCE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED QUADRIPARTITELY IN BONN, WE HAVE NOT RAISED ISSUE WITH BRITISH, AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES HERE. WE DO NOTE THAT ONLY BRITISH USE A BERLIN FREQUENCY. BOTH ARE, HOWEVER, CONCERNED WITH ALL ASPECTS OF VIABILITY OF CITY AND WITH LEGAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO KOMMANDATURA PREROGATIVES.

6. FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS AS TO NEGOTIATION TACTICS AND FALL-BACK POSITIONS ARE OFFERED FOR CONSIDERATION. THEY HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED INFORMALLY WITH LOCAL AFN AND RIAS REPRESENTATIVES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BERLIN 01669 211248Z

(A) AS INITIAL POSITION, FRG SHOULD SEEK TO MAINTAIN SEVEN FREQUENCIES NOW USED IN WEST BERLIN (AFN-1, RIAS-3, SFB-2, BBC-1), CITING SPECIAL BERLIN POLITICAL FACTORS AS JUSTIFICATION.

(B) AS FIRST FALLBACK POSITION, FRG MIGHT CONCEDE ELIMINATION OF SFB'S LOW-POWERED (5KW) 1484 AND RIAS 683 (BERLIN) AGAINST APPROPRIATE CONCESSIONS BY GDR AND OTHERS.

(C) FOR SECOND ROUND OF REDUCTIONS, FRG MIGHT CONCEDE ELIMINATION OF RIAS 854 AGAINST APPROPRIATE COUNTER-CONCESSIONS, LEAVING AFN 935, RIAS 9989, SFB 566 AND BBC 809.

(D) IF FURTHER REDUCTIONS ARE JUSTIFIED BY PROGRESS OF CONFERENCE, FRG MIGHT AGREE TO ELIMINATION OF AFN 935 AND BBC 809, ASSUMING THAT IT CAN PROVIDE US AND UK EACH WITH SUITABLE REPLACEMENT FREQUENCY IN FM (UKW) BAND. SUCH REPLACEMENT WOULD ENABLE AFN TO CONTINUE ITS DUAL-CULTURE PROGRAMMING IN BERLIN, AND WOULD ALLOW BBC TO CONTINUE TO SERVE BRITISH COMMUNITY IN BERLIN.

7. ABOVE CONCESSIONS SHOULD BE MADE ONLY IN EXCHANGE FOR APPROPRIATE, BUT NOT NECESSARILY MATCHING, ELIMINATION OF LF/MF FREQUENCIES EMPLOYED BY GDR IN EAST BERLIN AND SURROUNDING TERRITORY.KLEIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETINGS, RADIO BROADCASTING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BERLIN01669  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740266-0375  
**From:** BERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740925/aaaaaurn.tel  
**Line Count:** 132  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) BONN 14702 B) BONN 14181 C) STATE  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 MAY 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PREPARATION FOR 1974 LF/MF BROADCASTING CONFERENCE  
**TAGS:** ETEL, WB, GE, US, ITU  
**To:** BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005